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New Mexico Operations
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File Hc


January 6, 1982

ALBUQUERQUE DISTRICT MINING
RECEIVED
Dec JAN 11 1982 *CR*
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

Mr. Dale C. Jones
District Mining Supervisor
United States Department of the Interior
P. O. Box 69
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

Dear Dale:

I have your December 31, 1981 letter which cautions us about the early abandonment of the underground operations and your request for ore reserve data related to these operations.

You do not have a correct impression regarding the removal of ventilation and de-watering facilities from P-10. Andy is keeping these facilities intact as well as all ground support pending the review of the EIS document. We are removing mine equipment however, because of the availability of manpower. We, of course, cannot guarantee that all underground openings will stay open but where we have provided ground support, we will not remove it.

I have asked Earl Arlin to accumulate the data you have requested relating to the ore reserves of P-7, P-10, P-13, P-15, and NJ-45. It will take Earl a few days to do this but when we have it all put together, he will be in touch with you and you must remember; however, that much of this data is interpretive and we in no way can guarantee its accuracy nor give you any substantial evidence that the ore or mineralization will actually be found at either the grades or quantities so stated.

We can appreciate the USGS's responsibility to assure maximum resource recovery and we will cooperate with you in any reasonable way in this regard. We know that when we shut down operations that there will be concentrations of mineralization that could be classed as "ore" if milling facilities were

Mr. Dale C. Jones
January 6, 1982
Page 2

available nearby but much of the mineralization that is being left in these underground mines is in our opinion just mineralization and not "ore."

In conclusion, Dale, I don't think we have any adverse attitude here in relation to the USGS requirements. It is simply a case of misunderstanding by our employees on the job doing the dismantling work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. D. Lynn".

R. D. Lynn
Manager

mls